



Clermont County On The Move

a newsletter for citizens

Commissioners: Bob Proud, Mary Walker, and Scott Croswell

February 2005

www.clermontcountyohio.gov

Snow, Heavy Rains, Flooding Clermont County Perseveres

The heavy snow that blanketed Clermont County in December, made way for intense thawing, heavy rains, and flooding in January 2005. The recovery process will take months.

As the Ohio River climbed out of its banks cresting locally at five feet above flood stage, New Richmond and other communities along the riverfront saw some downtown streets turn into water canals.



On January 7, 2005, the Board of Clermont County Commissioners declared a state of emergency; Ohio's Governor Taft included Clermont in his statewide disaster declarations.



While there were no mandatory evacuations, there is quite a bit of property damage resulting from the floodwaters. The Clermont Department of Public Safety Services is now engaged in a series of preliminary damage assessment meetings, which could span 18 months.



Proud Elected BCC President

The Board of Clermont County Commissioners held its annual reorganization meeting on Monday, January 10, 2005, electing Bob Proud as president of the Board for calendar year 2005. Commissioner Mary Walker will serve as vice president.

Pictured at right: Commissioner Proud, Commissioner Walker and Commissioner Scott Croswell



First Half Real Estate Tax Bills Due

By: Debbie Shebesta, Treasurer's Office

"Approximately 45,000 first half 2004 real estate tax bills are in the mail to taxpayers without bank/mortgage company escrow accounts," said Clermont County Treasurer J. Robe True. "The deadline for payment is February 7, 2005."



Taxes can be paid by mail or in person at the

Treasurer's Office, located on the second floor of the Clermont County Administration Building, 101 E. Main Street, Batavia, from 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Payments can also be made at the following banks located in Clermont County: First Clermont Bank, Fifth Third Bank, Lebanon-Citizens National Bank, National Bank

& Trust, New Richmond National Bank and U.S. Bank N. A. Taxes may also be paid over the internet at www.officialpayments.com, or by phone, using a credit card, 1-800-272-9829.

A night deposit is located at the Main Street entrance of the County Administration Building for payment of taxes after hours. Taxpayers with questions may call 732-7254, E-mail us at Treasurer@co.clermont.oh.us or visit on the web: www.clermonttreasurer.org.

Corrections Officer Academy

Newly hired corrections officers at the Clermont County Jail are pictured at right, with Sheriff A. J. "Tim" Rodenberg, during their four-weeks of training at the Corrections Officer Academy. The program is mandated by the state of Ohio for county jail corrections officers, and has been held in-house since 1997.



The current academy class consists of 10 officers, seven male, three female, one of them from the Highland County Sheriff's Office. The Sheriff's Department invites and allows staff from nearby Sheriff's Offices to attend this academy at no cost, which benefits the smaller counties that are without the staff or resources to conduct their own academies.

The current class will graduate on Friday, Feb 4. There will be a short graduation ceremony at the Sheriff's Department starting at 1 p.m.

Sleep More, Get Thinner

A new study published by the Eastern Virginia Medical School, finds that people who sleep less, tend to be heavier. One thousand people were studied, finding that total sleep time decreased as body mass index increased.



"We've put so much emphasis on diet and exercise that we've failed to recognize the value of a good sleep," said researcher Dr. Fred Turek. "An additional 20 minutes of sleep a night can make a difference in lowering body mass index."



February Commissioner Sessions

Tuesday, Feb.1	1:00 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb.2	1:00 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb.8	1:00 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb.9	1:00 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 15	1:00 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb.16	1:00 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb.22	1:00 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb.23	1:00 p.m.

All regular sessions are held in the third floor session room of the Clermont County Administration Building, 101 East Main Street in Batavia, Ohio. For agenda information, contact the BCC offices at (513) 732-7300.

FRALEY ADMINISTERS OATH

By: Lisa Davis, MRDD

Linda Fraley, Clermont County Auditor, was present at the January 19 meeting of the Clermont County Board of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities (MRDD) to administer the oath of office to members of the board for the 2005 calendar year. Previous members of the board reaffirmed their commitment to serve in an advisory capacity to the Clermont County MRDD program, as Thomas A. Wildey III. and Anne Doyle participated in the swearing-in ceremony after having been reappointed in December.



The MRDD Board uses its January meeting to reorganize and accept nominations for officers. During this meeting each year, a date, time, and location of the year's meetings are established. After nominations were closed on January 19, the following members were elected officers: Wanda Downey, president; Tom Wildey, vice president; Pam Stetson, secretary. Members appointed to the Ethics Committee were: Tom Wildey, Pam Stetson, and Dolly McCall. It was approved that all 2005 meetings will be held on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Thomas A. Wildey Center cafeteria.

Pictured above: Linda Fraley, Tom Wildey, Dolly McCall, Wanda Downey, Anne Doyle, Jeffrey Forbes, and Sheila Madden.

Library Events

By: Tammy Craig, Clermont Library

Wool Spinning

Saturday, Feb. 19, 2:00 p.m.

Join Mary Helen Mack as she spins sheep wool into yarn. Call the Union Twp. Library for details at 528-1744.



Culinary Conversations

Tuesday, Feb. 22, 7:00 p.m.

Share recipes and cooking tips each Tuesday night. This month's topic is "Soups: Warm up in Mid-Winter." Call the Batavia Library for details at 732-2128.

Book Club

Thursday, Feb. 24, 1:30 p.m.

The title of this month's book selection up for discussion is "The Art of Mending" by Elizabeth Berg. Call the Milford-Miami Twp. Library for details at 248-0700.

Karneval



Saturday, Feb. 26, 11:00 a.m.

Celebrate the German holiday Karneval at the Amelia Library. Games, crafts, and snacks are planned. Call the library for more details at 752-5580.

Happy Anniversary

Clermont County Public Library

50 Years of Service to the Citizens of Clermont County

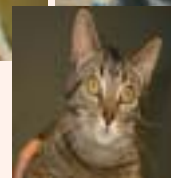
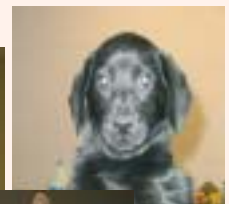
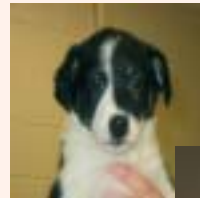
Welcome New Clermont County Employees!

BCC - Christine Hutchins,
Karen Alsip
HR - Gerald Runnels
Planning - Robert Bitzenhofer

Have Room in Your



for Us?



Clermont Animal Shelter
732-8854



Clermont Parks News

By: Keith Robinson, Park District

Bluebird Workshop

Saturday February 5, 11:00 a.m., Pattison Lodge

Participants can make their own bluebird box. We'll have all the supplies, just bring your own hammer and learn how to attract beautiful bluebirds. Fee is \$10 for materials. Pre-registration is required. Please call 513-876-9013 to sign up.

Winter Hike Series

Saturday February 19, 10:00 a.m., Stonelick State Park

Join naturalists from the Clermont County Park District and a ranger from Stonelick State Park for a brisk winter walk. Meet at the campground check-in station.



Making Maple Syrup

Saturday February 26, 11:00 a.m., Sycamore Park

Join the naturalists as you discover how maple syrup is made. You can see how trees are tapped, and we'll even have sample syrup for you to try. Once you know how the process works, you can go home and make your own syrup. Meet at the information kiosk.

Fourth Annual Best Dog in Clermont Contest Winners Announced

The Clermont County Auditor's Office, along with the Clermont County Board of Commissioners and the Clermont County Humane Society has named the winners of the 2005 Best Dog in Clermont County Contest.

All Clermont County students, grades K-6, were invited to participate in the drawing/essay contest designed to raise awareness on the important role our pets play in our lives and the importance of dog licensing.

The winners are as follows:

Kindergarten: 1st Place: Abigail Witter, St. Thomas More; 2nd Place: Claire Jossart, St. Thomas More; 3rd Place: Michael White, St. Thomas

More; **1st Grade:** 1st Place: Nicholas Trammel, Mulberry Elementary; 2nd Place: Julia Nelson, St. Thomas More; 3rd Place: Andrew Truske, Batavia Elementary; **2nd Grade:** 1st Place: Gracey Puckett, CNE Elementary; 2nd Place: Laura Caudill, Mulberry Elementary 3rd Place: Emily Seikbert, Marr Cook Elementary; **3rd**

Grade: 1st Place: Kelsey Marie Masters, Mulberry Elementary, 2nd Place: Emily Kay Bryant, Mulberry Elementary 3rd Place: Kristen Essig, Seipelt Elementary; **4th**

Grade: 1st Place: Bradley William Young, Summerside Elementary 2nd Place:

Christian Carwell, CNE Elementary 3rd Place: Emily Leach, Home Schooled; **5th Grade:** 1st Place: Deanna Sipple, St. Bernadette; 2nd Place: Belle Phipps, Mulberry Elementary, 3rd Place: Tiffany Owens, Mulberry Elementary; **6th Grade:** 1st Place: Mariah Hershey, Mulberry Elementary, 2nd Place: Hayley Florimonte, Mulberry Elementary, 3rd Place: Hayley Wilson, St. Thomas More.

An awards ceremony will be held to honor the winners on February 10, 2005, at 7:00 p.m. at the Union Township Civic Center. Everyone is invited to attend

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On the Move is a service of the Board of Clermont County Commissioners. For more information about any of the articles included in this publication, contact Kathy Lehr or Bobbi Padgett at **732-7597**.